

A CENTURY OLD

Old Christ's Church's Hundredth Year Finished Today.

CELEBRATED WITH DUE CEREMONY

Episcopalians Honor the Mother Parish of the City.

AN INTERESTING HISTORY

Services in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of Washington parish were held today in Christ Church, G street between 6th and 7th streets south-east. In response to an invitation issued by the rector of the parish, Rev. G. F. Williams, and the vestry a large number of the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church of this city, as well as representatives of other parishes, were present at the services this morning. The occasion was naturally one of great interest to the members of the venerable parish. Holy communion was celebrated at 7:30 this morning, and at 10:30 morning prayer was held. The music at the latter service, which was of an excellent character, was rendered by a quartet and a chorus choir, under the



The First Building.

direction of the precentor, James S. Smith. J. Fulton Richards presided at the organ. The quartet was as follows: Mrs. Lillian White, soprano; Miss Laura Kahler, alto; Jas. S. Smith, tenor; R. J. Lowry, bass. The chorus choir was composed of the following: Miss Bertha Kahler, soprano; Miss Jennie Goss, soprano; Miss Nettie Denham, soprano; Miss Fannie Beasley, alto; Miss Irene Gibbons, alto; W. E. Miller, bass; Paul C. Hutton, bass; J. Green, bass. The following selections were rendered: Processional, Hymn 176; Venite, by Nelson; Gloria Patri, by Danks; Te Deum, by Dudley Buck; Offertory, I Know the My Redeemer Liveth (from oratorio of "The Messiah"). A sermon was delivered by the Rev. Thomas John Claggett, the rector of the present Christ Church, the first bishop of Maryland and the first bishop consecrated in the United States. Among the clergymen present were Revs. Thos. G. Addison, D. L. Owensend, D. D.; F. M. Gibson, D. D.; A. J. Graham, Alfred Harding, P. Jervais Jenkins, J. M. E. McKee, Wm. Tunnell, G. H. Johnston, D. D.; J. McBride Sterrett, D. D.; Wm. Taylor Snyder, Chas. E. Buck, Albert R. Stuart, D. D.; Edward M. Mott, W. G. Tavenor, Robert S. W. Wood, Alexander Mackay-Smith, D. D.; Clarence E. Ball, George F. Dudley, J. W. Clark, Albert C. Jones, John H. Gilliam, S. T. D. Thos. O. Tongue, Randolph W. Lobie, Clarence Bishop, O. R. Bourne of Atlanta, Ga.; Nelson Falls, John A. Aspinwall, John A. G. Letters of regret were received from a number of others. Bishop Pratt, not being able to be present, sent a letter, which was read. The bishop said: "I regret very much that an unusual pressure of important duty will forbid my



Christ Church.

being present at the centennial celebration of your parish. I would make many sacrifices to be there, but others have claimed my duty for that day. I cannot consent, however, to let the centennial pass without expressing my own gratitude for the noble work done during those one hundred years by Washington parish. Some parishes in growing old grow feeble. Yours has reversed the rule, and it has now a vigor of strength, a power for usefulness, and a proof of honored power, which is rather to belong to the earlier stages of life. Your parish in its parochial action has lovingly sustained and helped the bishop, and you yourself, as priest and rector, have been a comfort to him, and a help to his confidence. May God's blessing expand your parish life more and more, and be with you personally, and give you peace and comfort in your labors."

This evening at 8 o'clock evening prayer will be said. A special prayer of music will be rendered and the sermon will be delivered by Rev. Alexander Mackay-Smith, D.D. The registrar of the parish, Mr. O. B. Hallam, will read a paper giving a sketch of the history of the parish.

At the time of the formation of what was then known as the Washington parish, territory now known as the District of Columbia had not been brought under the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress, and the territory of West Virginia had not been recognized in all matters affecting the people of Washington and Georgetown. Accordingly, the session of the Maryland assembly of 1794, an act was passed to form a new parish by the name of Washington parish, to include the city of Washington and Georgetown on the Potomac. The preamble of this act recited that there had been presented to the assembly "the petition of sundry Protestant Episcopal in-



Rev. Gilbert F. Williams.

habitants of the city of Washington, in Prince George's county, and of Georgetown, in Montgomery county, dwelling in separate parishes, with the consent and approval of the ministers of said parishes, to wit: St. John's parish, in Prince George's county, and St. Paul's, in Montgomery county. The act was passed establishing the new parish with its name and boundary, as stated in the title above quoted. Over four hundred persons, on June 25, 1795, there was held in the new parish, according to the first entry in its record, "a meeting of the Protestant Episcopal inhabitants, in consequence of a public advertisement," and the following vestrymen were elected: William Deakins, Jr., John Templeman, Charles Worthington, M. D., James Simmons, Joseph Clarke, Thomas

Johnson, Jr., and Gustavus Scott. Clotworthy Stephenson and William Prentiss were chosen as churchwardens, Henry Edwards as registrar, and Rev. George Rolph as rector.

Dr. Worthington was not present at this meeting, and later declined to serve, and his place was filled at the next meeting, July 14 of the same year, by the election of George Walker. At the same meeting Rev. Edwards was appointed minister to the Georgetown end of the parish. There is a break in the parish records for a time until April 7, 1806, none appearing to have been kept. On the latter day, being Easter Monday, the parishioners assembled and chose a full new vestry—Thomas Tingey, Butler Cooke, Thomas H. Gills, Peter Miller, John Dempsie, Andrew Way, Thomas Washington and Robert Alexander, the number of vestrymen required having been increased from seven to eight by the Maryland act of assembly of 1798, which is still in force here. Henry Rolph, chosen registrar and Rev. A. T. McCormick rector.

Although this seems to have been in a sense a new birth or a second lease of life, the worship of the parish had doubtless been kept up through the intervening years in the old original church, though the temporal affairs had become disordered and the records had to be classified under the head of "lost, strayed or stolen." When the parish was organized there was on New Jersey avenue near D street northeast a building, originally a tobacco barn, but which had been used since 1780 as a church, perhaps as a mission of St. John's parish. This building, however, was in fact in continued to be held as the only church outside of Georgetown until 1807. In the meantime, propositions were made from time to time looking to the erection of one or more new edifices, but without result. At the vestry meeting of July 1, 1805, James Greenleaf presented as a building site lot 17, in square 456, the square bounded by 6th, 7th, E and F streets northwest, and Samuel Hodggett, gave the vestry an order for timber to build a church. That body looked favorably on the plan and passed a resolution requesting the rector to also purchase lot 16, in the same square. The project was, however, abandoned and no church was ever built there.

After the termination at a meeting, held April 19, 1806, the old New Jersey avenue church was still recognized as the parish church, and a resolution was passed directing it to be known as Christ's Church. It seems, however, to have been named only to be put on the retired list, for on May 11, 1806, the vestry met, and the officers of lots, one by William Prout, the site of the present church, one by Messrs. Law and Carroll, about four squares distant.

Mr. Prout's offer being regarded as the most advantageous, was accepted, and the others declined with thanks, and subscriptions were directed for the erection of two church edifices, one east and the other west of Tiber creek, a little stream then flowing by the foot of Capitol Hill. As Mr. Prout's offer was conditional on the building of a church within a year, all efforts were made to hasten the work. Just when the church building was considered completed does not appear. On Easter Monday, March 28, 1807, there being a day of public prayer, the vestry met, and the four new members being Griffith Combs, David Slater, Peter Miller and Henry Ingle, and on August 9, 1807, the first service was held, as the record expresses it, "in the new church near the Navy Yard." On August 20 it was named by the vestry Christ Church, and by that name it has come ever since.

The pews were directed to be sold or rented, with the exception of three, one of which was reserved for the rector, and the United States, one to Mr. Prout, and one to the rector of the church. Not being free from debt, the church was not ready for consecration until 1809, when it was dedicated and consecrated to Almighty God by Right Reverend Thomas John Claggett, who designated himself in his certificate as bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church for the state of Maryland and that part of the District of Columbia north of the Potomac.

It is reported that James Madison used to occupy the pew assigned to the President, but, if so, it was not much matter of record. The record of recognition from the White House is the noting, April 7, 1817, of a letter from President James Madison to the President of the church. There is a tradition also that President Jefferson used to attend the old church on New Jersey avenue. There have been also frequent statements that President Washington was a worshiper at this church. It is possible that while a private citizen he may have occasionally attended service while visiting here.

But the fame or the credit of Christ Church does not depend on any connections with the Presidents or other high worldly dignitaries.

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officials: it rather grows from its antiquity the mother church of the capital, and from its spiritual work and ministrations. The long list of those consecrated to Almighty God by baptism and confirmation during the century of its existence is a sufficient proof of its devotion to the Savior, from whom it takes its name, and whose faith is its mission to perform.

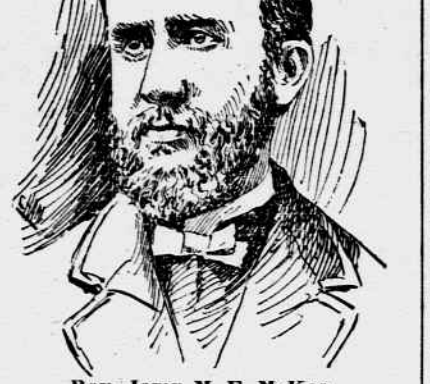
The church building in use today is substantially the same as when it was consecrated, except that it has been improved and changes have been made from time to time, but the walls are the same and the general plan the same.

The parish retained within its boundaries the whole of the two cities of Washington and Georgetown until 1824, when, on June 12 of that year, the act was passed, which gave consent to the establishment of the new parish of St. John's, to consist of all that part of the city of Washington lying south of the Potomac and north of North A street. The latter street has since been swallowed up in the Botanical Gardens and the mail. This subdivision of Washington, with Georgetown cut off as an outlying colony. This produced dissatisfaction in Georgetown, and on June 7, 1827, consent was given to the erection of two new parishes in Georgetown.

At the same time a new parish in Washington was created, to consist of that part of the city between North and South Capitol streets and north of South I street. This left Washington parish to consist of the city of Washington, or what is now known as the northeast and southeast sections, together with that part of the southwest corner of the city lying between the Potomac and North A street. While by far the largest parish in territory, it was comparatively so sparsely settled that no change seems to have been necessary for over forty years. Until April 5, 1829, when, with a view to the creation of St. Mark's parish, an order was passed by the vestry dividing the parish boundary to be along East 6th street to North Carolina avenue and thence to South Capitol street. This boundary has only been changed since by the creation of St. James parish in June, 1873, including the territory

between East Capitol and Boundary and 6th and 15th streets.

Long terms have been the rule with the rectors of Washington parish. As stated above, Rev. George Rolph was the first rector, serving until 1806, when, on April 19, Rev. A. T. McCormick was elected to succeed him. Mr. McCormick served for seventeen years, and on July 11, 1823, resigned. Mr. McCormick was succeeded on July 29, 1823, by Rev. Ethan Allen, who proceeded to build a rectory. Mr. Allen only remained seven years, resigning August 3, 1830. Rev. T. W. Hatch was the rector chosen to succeed him, and he served until October 12, 1835, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Rev. Henry H. Bean, who continued in service until June 21, 1842, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Rev. William Hodges.



Rev. John M. E. McKee.

Mr. Hodges was in turn succeeded by Rev. Joshua Morsell October 1, 1853, who held the rectorship during the greater part of the civil war, and resigned October 7, 1864. His successor was Rev. M. L. Olds, who was the only one of the parish rectors who died in office.

During Mr. Olds' rectorate Rev. W. A. Harris was chosen as assistant minister April 27, 1858. This was the first assistant minister chosen in the parish since the directing it to be known as Christ's Church at Georgetown. He was probably chosen on account of the failing health of the rector, who died in September following. When Mr. Harris at one's resigned and came to the succession, and Rev. Charles H. Shield was elected rector on September 25, 1858. During Mr. Shield's term Rev. A. B. Steele was chosen assistant minister, but evidently with a view of setting him apart for the contemplated new parish of St. Mark's, which was authorized a short time after.

Mr. Shield held office not quite two years, and on August 6, 1860, resigned and was succeeded by Rev. William McDowell, who resigned June 1, 1873, and ten days later was succeeded by Rev. Charles D. Andrews. Mr. Andrews served for fourteen years, until Easter, 1887, when he resigned, and took charge of a church in St. Paul, Minn., where he still remains.

His successor, Gilbert F. Williams, assumed charge in June of that year, and his excellent work is fresh and continuing. During his term St. Matthew's Chapel, a mission at Half and M streets southeast, has been built, and is now in charge of its own minister, Rev. J. M. E. McKee. The corner stone of the new church was laid September 21, 1892, and the structure completed during the following summer. It is a place of worship for a hitherto neglected portion of the city.

A history of the parish would be incomplete without some notice of its burial ground. It seems that in the early part of the century certain residents of the east-square section of the city had purchased square 1115, which lies between 15th and 19th and E and G streets southeast, for a private burial ground. Square 1026, in the northeastern section, had been bought for a similar purpose, but proved too low and too wet. By a remarkable coincidence, it happened that the purchasers of square 1115 found their proposed enterprise impracticable, and they tendered the square to the parish. It was accepted, and the vestry was delivered March 30, 1812, by Henry Claggett, the title holder, and the name was given it of Washington Parish Burial Ground. By this name it is known until May 3, 1849, when the vestry changed it to Washington cemetery, yet in popular nomenclature it is known as Congressional cemetery.

This title came back to its earthly connection with the national legislature April 15, 1846, the vestry assigned one hundred sites for the interment of deceased members of Congress, and in 1853, three hundred more sites were donated for the same purpose. Many Congressmen and Congress officials were buried there. Erected cenotaphs, and made sundry appropriations for improvements, and, not least, by the erection of a monument to add its name to the cemetery's title in its various acts.

The cemetery was gradually enlarged by the purchase of other lots, until it now has an area of some thirty acres, and a city of the dead of some 20,000 inhabitants. As early as 1854 the vestry foresaw the necessity of making some permanent provision for the care of the cemetery after its members of Congress had been interred, and, on April 12 of that year, the vestry adopted a plan for the purpose, which was limited to \$30,000. This plan was carried out, and the cemetery now has a revenue of from \$2,500 to \$3,000 annually, and is fully equipped for the purpose.

The present vestry of the parish is composed of Messrs. O. B. Hallam, E. N. Watkinson, J. M. E. McKee, L. B. Taylor, A. D. Cobey, W. H. Spelman, and the wardens, C. W. Blaud. The wardens are Messrs. Shearman and Edwards and Varela.

A Church Home for Women. Almost the crowning work of the waning century of Christ Church parish was begun St. Barnabas church, in 1884. This day, whose meaning is "consolation" was at that time designated as the "chapter day" of St. Agnes Chapter, Daughters of the King.

After the service the rector, Rev. Gilbert F. Williams, unfolded to the congregation the desire of many hearts that the offering of that day, to which would be added the offerings of all future years, should be the beginning of a fund for the establishment of "a church home for women, ever to be under the sheltering care of the mother church." "At the beginning of the life of this parish," one of the founders of the home said to a St. Barnabas sister today, "so protected was the life of the mother church, the mother of a home other than that provided by the father or husband would have had but little meaning. He took it, and in spite of our modern civilization more and more are women and young girls, too, compelled to leave the protection of the family and become wage earners. The establishment of a home for such, to be complete in all its appointments and attractive in its life, is the mission of the mother church, but for any girl who may be homeless or away from home, alone, as she may think, in a vast city, to all such this church home for women is a loving and careful protection."

Wanted Him to Blow Away. From the Montreal Star. A young lady organist in a church was captivated with the young pastor of a church in the next street, and was delighted to hear one week that by exchange he was to preach the next Sunday in her own church. The organ was pumped by an ostentatious old sexton, who would often stop when he thought the organ vol-

STANTON IN THE WAR

Incidents Showing the Great Secretary's Will Power.

TOLD BY HIS CONFIDENTIAL CLERK

How His Was the Master Spirit in Critical Moments.

RELATIONS TO LINCOLN

Written for The Evening Star.

General Grant once said of Secretary Stanton that he never questioned his own authority to command, and that he felt no hesitation in assuming the functions of the executive, or in acting without advising with him. In his campaign for the capture of Norfolk, the Secretary of War, although accompanied by the President, was, in fact, the controlling spirit, the master will. He went to Fortress Monroe to make things move, and they did move.

He commanded the army and the navy in the capture of Norfolk and caused the Merrimac to commit suicide.

It was the battle between the Merrimac and the Monitor in Hampton Roads, in March, 1862, that revolutionized battles on the seas throughout the world.

The Merrimac became suddenly the terror of Washington and New York, and the Monitor became the terror of Richmond. Looking back at this revolution, in comparison with the resources and power of the navy at Richmond and the resources and power of the navy at Washington, I think the navy at Richmond was far in advance of the federal navy. The Merrimac as an iron-clad gunboat was the first to give battle to warships and to sink them. The broadsides of thunderbolts from the blockading fleet were hurled against her like hailstones upon a tin roof. She sank two men-of-war and paralyzed the rest. So great was the consternation after this battle, at Washington and New York, that fleets of eleven steamships, ironclads, rams and gunboats was collected in Hampton Roads and kept with steam up for nearly two months, watching this rebel terror day and night, and then only with the hope of running her down should she come out a second time to give battle.

The news of the world-stirring amazement at the monster, and wondered where she came from.

After this battle every sea had floating steel monsters of war.

Planning the Capture of Norfolk. While this formidable war fleet was watching for the coming of the Merrimac, Gen. Wool with his army at Fortress Monroe seems only to have been watching this war fleet in Hampton Roads. The army, the navy and the two cities mentioned, had been paralyzed. The Secretary of the Navy had advised Mr. Stanton that there was only one way to capture Norfolk, and that was by sending Gen. Burnside, then at Annapolis, to attack Norfolk. Mr. Stanton, however, had a different plan. He had known how much these reports grieved Mr. Stanton, and the President he never would let them. They kept Mr. Stanton in one endless round of despair. During this waiting and watching and constructing siege-parallels, Yorktown was evacuated, and the great siege-works rendered useless. It was the story of Manassas repeated.

It is a singular coincidence that on the very day Yorktown was evacuated, and before he knew it, Mr. Stanton telegraphed Gen. Wool to put his force in condition for a sudden movement. Before Mr. Stanton had determined to go down to Hampton Roads to see if something could be done to capture Norfolk, he induced Mr. Chase to capture with him in the revenue cutter Miami. In military movements indecision is always the worst enemy a commander has. Mr. Stanton, however, was a man of a different character that gave him Norfolk and Portsmouth on the fifth day after he left Washington. Mr. Stanton also asked the President to send him the revenue cutter Miami, at the close of the war. Mr. Stanton, however, was a man of a different character that gave him Norfolk and Portsmouth on the fifth day after he left Washington. Mr. Stanton also asked the President to send him the revenue cutter Miami, at the close of the war.

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But the most pronounced exhibition of Mr. Stanton's authority to command was when he summoned from their beds the President Lincoln's cabinet, and began to dictate the orders and messages, dashing away from the War Department, illustrated Mr. Stanton's will power. Mr. Stanton, however, was a man of a different character that gave him Norfolk and Portsmouth on the fifth day after he left Washington. Mr. Stanton also asked the President to send him the revenue cutter Miami, at the close of the war.

Of these nine reasons President Johnson told Gen. Sherman that he knew nothing, and had no part in their promulgation. Mr. Stanton, however, was a man of a different character that gave him Norfolk and Portsmouth on the fifth day after he left Washington. Mr. Stanton also asked the President to send him the revenue cutter Miami, at the close of the war.

Referring to the President's conference in January, 1865, with peace commissioners from Richmond, Mr. Stanton did not want the President to grant that conference. The Secretary, who had watched the matter from the beginning, believed the coming of these commissioners to be a trap laid for the President, whose goodness and gentleness were known. The history of that conference shows that both Gen. Grant and the President were deceived in the declarations of these commissioners, which enabled them to get that conference.

The President did not want to go with the President, and to test the sincerity of their mission he advised the President to send Gen. Eckert, then assistant secretary of war, and now president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, to go as an advance representative of the President, with certain instructions, but the terms were set aside, and in their place new terms of surrender were made.

The Peace Conference. Referring to the President's conference in January, 1865, with peace commissioners from Richmond, Mr. Stanton did not want the President to grant that conference. The Secretary, who had watched the matter from the beginning, believed the coming of these commissioners to be a trap laid for the President, whose goodness and gentleness were known. The history of that conference shows that both Gen. Grant and the President were deceived in the declarations of these commissioners, which enabled them to get that conference.

So far as I know, every person who was at that conference, except Gen. Eckert, has left his record and views of what was said and done for the historian. As he has never published a word about this extraordinary conference, which was, ostensibly, to close the great war of modern times, I now implore him to break his silence, to tell

"Your Liver to Blame"

The Prescription:

Is For Rhubarb

Is For Ipecac

Is For Peppermint

Is For Aloes

Is For Nuxvomica

Is For Soda

Ripans, 50c. Box, All Druggists.

—for those bilious attacks you have so frequently. The liver becomes engorged, congested and inflamed, and the bile, instead of being properly excreted by the intestines, is taken up by the blood. There are gripping pains in the abdomen, headache and dizziness, and you suffer from what is known as a bilious attack. Let us be your physician and prescribe. Our prescription is Ripans Tablets, 50c. box at all druggists. The dose is one tablet after each meal until the bilious attacks cease to occur.

"One gives relief."

DOES THE GRIP THING?

What a Bloomingdale Professor Told a New York Cable Car Man.

From the New York World. "When I drove a street car," said the Broadway gripman to a reporter, "the horses always knew by the conductor's bell when to stop, and I didn't have to pull 'em up once or start them when the bell rang twice. You see, they learned exactly what the rings meant."

"Of course, you wouldn't expect a grip, which is made of steel, to have a human licence, but I'll swear that some of them have. My grip has got so that when the bell sounds he works, and it isn't so hard or much to occur to you that I'm a liar, but I'm not."

Not All Ice. From the New York Weekly. Rural Adorer (bashfully)—"You didn't go to Millie Meadows's party. Don't you like kismet games?"

"No, I don't." Rural Adorer (weakly)—"Why don't you?" Pretty Maid (encouragingly)—"Cause there's so many lovelies on."

His Lot Is Not a Happy One. From the New York World.

He resents the criticism of a blond young man wearing glasses.

Then the blond young man mentions that his name is Theodore Roosevelt.

Maude—"I really believe Cholly is going to get married."

Ester—"What makes you think so?"

Maude—"I hear he has joined a cooking school."

From Life. In 1915.

Then the blond young man mentions that his name is Theodore Roosevelt.